

Group Art Unit: 3627  
Examiner: Lugo, C.

Atty. Ref.: USUI-12N

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4/24/02



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Shoichiro Usui  
Appl. No. : 09/731,170  
Filed : December 6, 2000  
For : HIGH-PRESSURE METAL PIPE HAVING CONNECTING  
HEAD AND METHOD FORMING THE CONNECTING HEAD  
AS WELL AS SLEEVE WASHER FOR THE CONNECTING  
HEAD

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**RECEIVED**

APR 23 2002

**GROUP 3600**

**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Official Action of February 6, 2002, please amend  
the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 1 and 4, and add new claims 5-14.

5. A high-pressure pipe assembly, comprising a metal pipe having  
opposite first and second ends, a connecting head adjacent said first end, said  
connecting head having a seat surface flared outwardly from said first end and a  
cylindrical surface extending from said seat surface away from said first end, said  
cylindrical surface having a selected outside diameter, a cylindrical body extending  
from said connecting head toward said second end, said cylindrical body having an  
outside diameter less than said selected outside diameter of said cylindrical surface  
of said connecting head, a passage extending centrally through said metal pipe

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